



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

January 2, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike", written over the name "Michael P. Flanagan".

SUBJECT: Presentation on Social Studies Standards Update and College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework

Social studies teachers and educators have worked with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and High School Content Expectations with varying degrees of success over the last seven years. Students need to have greater knowledge of and skills in civics, geography, economics, and history to better understand and participate in their ever-changing world and to be ready for careers and college after high school.

Michigan is one of 28 states that voluntarily worked with National Council for Social Studies to develop the Career, College, and Civic Life Framework (C3 Framework) providing a method of aligning state social studies standards including disciplinary literacy. Upon completion of this framework, it became clear that updates to Michigan's current social standards were needed to better reflect the skills and knowledge represented in the framework. Feedback from various content area conferences and workshops around the state also reflected the need to update the standards. The framework can be found at: <http://www.socialstudies.org/system/files/c3/C3-Framework-for-Social-Studies.pdf>.

Beginning in April of 2014, a group of educators from the Michigan Council for the Social Studies, Michigan Council for Civic Education, Michigan Council for Economic Education, Michigan Geographic Alliance, and the Michigan Council for History Education engaged in a project to update Michigan's social studies standards and align them with instructional activities and assessment practices reflected in the C3 Framework.

Today's presentation will focus on the updating of Michigan's social studies content standards and alignment to the C3 Framework. Future presentations will focus on instructional changes, assessment, and educator preparation considerations leading to a request for public comment and eventual approval of the updated standards.

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